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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

NICHTL

Art Unit: 1641

Application No.: 09/633,295

Examiner: Pensee Do

Filed: August 7, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: 100564-00025

For: GOLD CONJUGATES CONTAINING DETERGENT

AMENDMENT

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OCT 01 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 26, 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated June 28, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 24, 31 and 34 as follows:

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24. (Twice Amended) A method for stabilizing conjugates composed of colloidal particles and biomolecules, the method comprising:
adding detergent to a solution containing biomolecules, and thereafter
loading colloidal particles with the solution
without adversely influencing the function of the conjugates by displacing the biomolecules by the detergent or by interactions of the biomolecules or the colloidal particles with the detergent after loading.

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31. (Twice Amended) A process for producing colloidal particles having biomolecule absorbing surfaces, the process comprising: